



January 27, 2022

Dear Chinook Families,

Today, the Government of Saskatchewan announced their [Update to COVID-19 Self-Isolation, Close Contact Protocols](#). Please review the following important highlights:

*Effective this Friday, January 28, residents who receive a positive test result on a PCR or rapid antigen test will be required to self-isolate for five days, regardless of vaccination status. You are required to self-isolate for five days from the date of test or 24 hours after fever has resolved without the aid of fever-reducing medications and all other symptoms have been improving for at least 48 hours, whichever is later. Previously, unvaccinated residents who had tested positive were required to self-isolate for 10 days.*

***Close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases will no longer be required to self-isolate, regardless of vaccination status.*** *If you are a close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case, you should self-monitor for symptoms and continue to use publicly-available rapid antigen tests for asymptomatic surveillance.*

***Parents and caregivers are no longer required to notify schools about positive test results for the purposes of close contact notification.*** *Those who test positive are required to self-isolate and will be absent from school and activities for the duration of the self-isolation period.*

**Please note the following:**

- We ask that parents/caregivers continue to keep children at home if they are ill or have any symptoms, and inform the school of any absences and if it is due to illness.
- Families are encouraged to use rapid antigen testing. Test kits are available for free at schools and various community locations.
- Students who are a close contact and currently isolating from extracurricular activities will be able to resume participation in all activities at 12:00 noon on Friday, January 28, as long as they have no symptoms.

The current public health orders, available at [saskatchewan.ca/covid-19](https://saskatchewan.ca/covid-19), remain in effect:

- **Masking is mandatory in all indoor public spaces including buses and schools;**
- Mandatory self-isolation is required for all confirmed positive cases; and
- Proof of vaccination or negative test requirements are in place for public access to a list of establishments, businesses and event venues.

In Chinook School Division, [AP405.1 - Vaccination and COVID-19 Testing Protocols](#) will remain in effect. All of the preventative measures outlined in the Chinook Return to School Plan will also remain and are extremely important to continue to protect the health and safety of students and staff in our buildings.

Thank you for your continued support of the administrators and staff in your schools.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Benesh".

Mark Benesh  
Director of Education